

Church of God

August 27, 1956

Evangel



Layman-of-the-Year, Lee Watson, of Atlanta, Georgia, assists worshiper to church service

"Laymen's Issue"

*"A Tribute to
Our Members"*

*"Layman-of-
the-Year"*



The Pause That Refreshes

BY LAWRENCE WEAVER

Acts 3:19, "When the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

TO THE CHURCH

Because of the great works which God performed through Peter and John, persecution began to arise. The religious leaders laid hold on Peter and John and put them in prison, had their trial and commanded them to preach no more in the name of Christ. This was quite an ordeal for the Church. We see them as they got together to pray and talk the situation over with God. They needed a refreshing from God. "Stretch forth thine hand" and "grant unto thy servants that with all boldness we may speak thy word," they prayed, Acts 4:29. The refreshing came! When the "amen" ending their prayer was said, the place began to shake under the mighty refreshing power of God. Has your church been carrying a load? Has the Devil been nagging from every corner? Stop. Pray, and let the showers of refreshing rain from heaven pour upon you and give you courage to press on and fight the battle.

TO THE SICK

A little woman with an issue of blood came walking down the road. Perspiration was on her brow. A fatigued look was on her face, and she was heartbroken within. She had just paid the doctor her last cent, only to hear him say, "I can do no more for you." She saw the crowd gathered around Jesus and saw what great things He was doing for them. She paused long enough to touch the hem of His garment and "felt in her body she was whole." She heard Him say, "Daughter, go thy way, thy faith has made thee whole."

My sick Friend, stop worrying for a while. Get your mind off aches and pains. Through an eye of faith, take a look into Pilate's Judgment Hall; there see the Roman soldier, with a cat-o'-nine-tails in his hand cutting stripes on the back of the Son of God that you, by faith, might touch the hem of His garment and feel that delivering touch that can come only from God. One lash—healing is provided for tuberculosis; another lash—healing is provided for heart diseases; another lash—cancer has to go and so forth. Later, Peter could tell the people of "Jesus of Nazareth" who went about doing good healing all that were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38). Surely, this is a worth-while pause.

TO THE SINNER

The thief on the cross had gone as far as he could go. A life of sin lay behind him—a life of torment and misery, ahead of him. What could he do? Close his mind to the mocking mob that stood around and gazed into the sweet face of the Man who hung on the middle cross and say, "Remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." Oh, how refreshing to this hell-bound soul to hear the sweet voice of Jesus as He replied, "This day shall thou be with me in paradise."

Sinner Friend, I realize that this is a fast age. Every one is in a hurry; it is important that you stop and take heed to the gospel of Christ. Accept His forgiveness and go to heaven to be with Him forever. You had better stop a while and listen. You had better take time to pray that your footsteps may be guided in the straight and narrow way.

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saint's feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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In this "Laymen's Issue"
an esteemed minister and
leader pays.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR MEMBERS

By James A. Cross
Assistant General Overseer

1 Thessalonians 1:1-3, "Paul and Silvanus, and Timothy, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father."

PAUL, IN GLOWING WORDS, pays highest tribute to the members of the local church in Thessalonica. You will note in the Scripture that in all his prayers, he gives thanks to God: first, remembering the work of faith; second, their labors of love; third, their patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. He further states that this is exemplified in the sight of God; also, it is to be presumed in the sight of the world, since they are living before others.

I should like to pay tribute to our good, loyal, faithful Church of God members. They comprise the fountainhead for all of the work of Christ. From the membership stems a stream of prayer warriors who are constantly holding up to God our ministers, members, friends, and loved ones. They are a great bulwark against the insidious inroads of evil in this world. From the membership of our Church come our teachers, our future leaders, and the potential preachers of the Church of God. In a word, the membership of our local churches is the backbone of the Church in the future.

Paul's tribute is based on three substantial facts: first, their work of faith—note, particularly, that it is not dead faith or faith that does not produce, but it is a work of faith. Then he further states that his tribute is based on their labor of love. Here is involved some action, and the strength of this love is exemplified by the extent of labor involved. He pays high tribute to these members because of their patience of hope. No doubt, it was severely tried upon many occasions by afflictions, by persecutions and by numberless tempta-

tions abounding on every hand; yet they had successfully overcome all of their afflictions, their temptations, and their persecutions and were triumphant in Christ Jesus.

The tribute to our members today is based upon these same facts, for their work of faith is evidenced by the fact that they believe in the Church, its program, its progress, and its purpose here in this world. Their labor of love is substantiated by what they have done for the Church in days gone by. May I point out some particular areas in which I feel they have contributed a large part to our Church work: First of all, our good loyal members lend encouragement to our ministers and one another—Isaiah 41:6, 7, "They helped every one his neighbour; and every one said to his brother, Be of good courage. So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith, and he that smootheneth with the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying, It is ready for the soldering: and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved." Many a minister has had encouragement from his members by their faithfulness and loyalty and by their speaking a word of encouragement to him. Quite often my members have come around and told me that they were behind me and that I could count on them in times of need. To know that such good loyal people are with him certainly gives encouragement to the minister.

Their work of faith is also exemplified by the fact that they pray for the minister. I have often been preaching and noticed members in the congregation whose lips were moving in prayer. I knew that they were praying for me while I preached. Many a night good loyal members have sent petitions to God for their ministers, perhaps, while the ministers slept.

These members, by their work of faith, have helped many a beginning minister on his way. Good loyal members bore patiently with me in the early days of my ministry, for they knew I was but a novice; yet they backed me up, stood by me in prayer and greatly assisted my work in the Lord Jesus Christ. Through their forbearance and through the assistance that good loyal members have given, we ministers are what we are today.

I PAY TRIBUTE TO our members for their labors of love, for it is they upon whom we rely to see that our programs and purposes are carried out in the local churches. The pastor calls for his members to stand behind him and support him in the work of the Lord. If a drive is put on, the pastor depends upon his members' getting behind the drive. If a contest is put on, he counts on his members' getting behind the contest and making it a success.

Their labors of love carry out the program and purpose of the Church, because many of them are teachers of Sunday School classes in our local churches. They teach our youngsters and our young people, our middle-aged people and our fathers and mothers the way of salvation and instruct them in the good things of God. Many of our mothers and fathers in the Lord have been counselors for the young people, saints of God in whom they can confide and find advice and help in their problems.

Their labors of love are manifested in the development of the local church. When a new building is needed or an enlargement of the present structure is called for, we depend upon our good loyal members to make such dreams and hopes and plans a reality. They are members of building committees and members of finance committees; oftentimes with their own hands, they help in the construction of such buildings. If plans are made to further the program of the Church in a new area, it is these good loyal members upon whom we depend to help us carry out this work of God.

After buildings are constructed and financial obligations are to be met on these churches, such obligations are met through sacrifices and labors of love for God and His Church. Many of our good lady folk spend hours over hot stoves preparing meals to be sold, in order to meet such obligations. Oftentimes, contributions are made of materials to make these dinners. Then many a time the husbands of these good wives who have prepared the meals will take their cars and get them to the place where they are to be sold. Oftentimes, our menfolk, not to be outdone by the ladies, will put on special projects and sales in order to enable the church

to meet financial obligations. These are labors of love which we should remember on every occasion.

Good Christian people who comprise the membership of the local churches are the financial bulwark of our local and General Church. Under our present financial plan (which, incidentally, is one of the best that I know of anywhere, and one which other church organizations are investigating), the financial progress of the Church depends upon the faithfulness of our good loyal members. From the tithes that they pay into the local church, the pastor receives his salary.

Out of these tithes paid into the treasury, our headquarters, both state and general, carry on their work. Our state overseer is paid out of tithes that are paid by our loyal members. The salaries of General Officials and workers at General Headquarters are paid by the amount sent to our General Headquarters.

Also, from the tithe fund comes a portion of money for the support of our aged ministers' pension plan, our widows of aged ministers, and sick and disabled ministers.

Our loyal church members support the missions program and, through their contributions made in local churches, the possibilities of spreading the gospel all over the world is made a reality. Oceans have been spanned, mountains scaled, and deserts crossed to carry the message of salvation and plant the standard of God's Church. Good members have sacrificed new clothes and, sometimes, food to give for missions. As a result the sun never sets on the Church of God. Many a member who has never preached a sermon, or visited a mission field will receive a reward on that glorious day and obtain stars in his crown because, by his giving, he has won souls to God. He, too, shall share the joys of the harvest and the reward of a soul-winner with the missionary.

My hat is off to you, good Member. I pray that I may be as good a servant of the Church as you are a member. I trust that all my fellow ministers will join with me in the words of Paul, "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope . . ."



I am now available for teaching evening courses in churches. The following courses may be arranged for two or three weeks, as desired: "Teacher Training" or "Personal Evangelism." Also, I can conduct classes in Bible Study or in the basic Bible teachings of our Church for new converts, as "The New Birth," "Sanctification" or "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit." I have a major in missions; therefore, I can teach any missions subject that would help in the training of young people who are

looking forward to work in the missions field. You may contact me at 241 Fifteenth Street, N.E., Cleveland, Tennessee, or phone GReenwood 6-4775.—Gettys Phillips.

We plan to rush into next week's issue a listing of elections and appointments made at the General Assembly.

Paul McCarn, P. O. Box 245, Belmont, North Carolina, is now open for revivals. He will go anywhere.

The Church of God Evangel

His pastor tells about

LEE WATSON

Layman of the Year

By Earl P. Paulk, Jr.

Pastor, Hemphill Avenue Church of God
Atlanta, Georgia

THE CHOICE OF LEE Watson for layman of the year is no surprise to those who know him best. His love for God and the Church is exemplified by his faithfulness. There is hardly a meeting of any kind at the Hemphill Avenue Church of God that he does not attend. Though his work calls him from the bed before the rising of the sun, he never allows it to hinder his helping to carry on the work of God. On prayer meeting nights his personal testimony of salvation is an inspiration in the service.

Brother Watson is the superintendent of the Sunday School. He has given many years of service in this field of work. By his help as leader and the cooperation of the members and friends, the Hemphill Sunday School won first place in the Sunday School contest for the larger churches in the Church of God. The Sunday School had an average of over seven hundred during the contest, with nearly one thousand in attendance on the last Sunday.

Lee Watson is a supporter of the broadcast of our local church. The Watson Bakery, which he owns, pays half the total cost of the program. This broadcast is a means of giving the gospel to many who otherwise would not hear it. The broadcast from the Hemphill Avenue Church of God on Sunday mornings at nine

The Layman of the Year was chosen for the Evangel by a selection committee of three prominent ministers. Nominations were made from many sections of the country and many excellent laymen were named. Mr. Watson and Mr. Williams are symbols of all the faithful laymen in the Church of God.—Editor.

o'clock is one of the most popular in the Atlanta area. The support from Brother Watson is of great help in this endeavor.

Brother Watson is a member of the Church Council. For several years, the members of the church have elected him to this board. His being among the first three elected on the council makes him, also, a member of the Finance Committee of the local church. Each week he meets with the other members of this committee and the pastor to keep the finance of the church in order.

Brother Watson is a very charitable layman. He gives liberally to any good cause of the church. Usually, he is among the leaders in any financial drive. He is faithful in the support of the church. His liberality reaches outside the church services. Often, he gives not only bread and cakes from the Watson Bakery, but also money to purchase food for needy families. Also, his kindness to the aged is worthy of notice.

The hospitality of the Watson home is outstanding. A great number of preachers have stayed in this home through the years—not only preachers but others who had need of a place to stay. If a young person needs a Christian home, he can find it at the Watsons. Brother

(Continued on page 11)





The Incomparable Ministry of **JOHN THE BAPTIST**

By James Goude
Walterboro, South Carolina



John was as fearless as David before Goliath—as meek and unpretending as Paul before Agrippa. He magnified Jesus Christ when he said, “I must decrease but He must increase.”

JOHN THE BAPTIST was one of the greatest men who ever witnessed of Jesus Christ. He, as Amos, was Tekoa bred. As Amos he, too, was titanic in his appeal to backslidden Israel. Few men have ever been so completely yielded to God's divine will as this man was. He faced alike the rich and the rabble with a common message. Repent! Repent! The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

He, as Nathan, when royalty erred, did not fail to reprimand. He leveled an accusing finger at Herod the king and told him it was not lawful for him to have his brother Philip's wife. Herod feared this man; but Herodias, his paramour, would have had him slain on the spot if she could have done so. She was a vain and voluptuously charming woman whose heart was as dark as a pool at midnight. It is highly probable that, because she had failed in her evil designs toward this servant of God and was unable to attract him to her beauty, she meant to see to it that his ministry was a short one. Evil is an ugly thing in either sex, but a depraved woman is a most repulsive sight. She is loud and vain, wicked and vicious, flamboyant and designing, cold and heartless; and most of them are bitter and withstanding toward everything white, noble, and pure. Herodias was such a woman. From Jezebel to Scotland's Bloody Mary, there has never been a woman with more hate toward God's man than was manifested by her.

Yet, John was as fearless as David before Goliath—as meek and unpretending as Paul before Agrippa. He magnified Jesus Christ when he said, “I must decrease but He must increase.” When he came out of the wilderness, he found a deliriously sick world, but he had the divine cure, “Repentance.” He found men wallowing in sin and iniquity and pointed them to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. He found a people engrossed in darkness and showed them the Light. He openly and on the spot denounced sin and unrighteousness. It takes sterner stuff to make a preacher than it does to make a person who shuts his eyes, and is content to side with, or fail to rebuke the Sunday golfer because he is a friend of the collection plate.

Now I have no intention to be derogatory toward my fellow ministers. However, I cannot but speak the things I have observed in my experience as a preacher. Some of you clergymen will have Sabbath breakers, swearers, blatant liars, and drunkards at your communion table this morning who with unholy hands shall reach for bread and wine and raise them to unclean lips while their uncircumcised hearts skip a beat at their audacity. Some of you pastors in the city of Walterboro do not dare lift your voices against beer because some of your most prominent members have cases in their refrigerators right now. You do not dare speak against the liquor traffic because you have business men on your deacons' board who rent their buildings to liquor dealers or perhaps own stock in some distilleries.

We church-going people of today, look on Herodias with contempt for the part she played in the beheading of John the Baptist; but if he were to come back and preach from some of our modern pulpits, he would lose his head before the sun could go down. These Bible-carrying, noisy, modern religionists would not tolerate such blistering frankness and uncompromising approach.

Once, there was a man who came down with a deadly disease, and he was told that he could not live. He called for a minister and told him something was troubling him greatly and he thought to find peace of mind he should confess to someone. He said he had been a very devilish and mischievous man in his life. One day he had seen some workmen posting signs telling the direction and distance to another town. Going over after the men had left, he turned the sign in the opposite direction. He said to the minister, "I have always wondered how many people I set on the wrong road. This should trouble the conscience of some of these easy-going liberalists who stand in pulpits across our country and pat sinning men on their backs, assuring them that their darling lust and pet sins are no harm and nothing to be disturbed about."

I KNOW we have spirit-filled, God-called, sin-attacking ministers. The kind who will not be bought off by Balak's staggering bribes or cater to the whims of a truth-hating world. All the real prophets of the Lord have not vanished from the earth. They shall stand behind sacred desks across America this morning with a burning message for lost men. But, while the faithful minority tries desperately to save our nation from chaos and death, spineless, feeble and apologetic preachers are coddling transgressors and taking possession of the keys to the kingdom of heaven; only opening its gates, or pretending to do so, to those who pay them most liberally.

There is no preacher in the world that can repent for any individual. John the Baptist said, "Repent ye!" You might say "John was a primitive preacher for a primitive mind and we need a new approach for this atomic age." All right, my friend, you be the judge. Compare John's type of message with some of these soft-tongued, sin-embracing, modified essays from our modern pulpits and see which is more effective.

If your child had something hurtful or deadly in its hand, you would warn and try to convince him of the danger he was in. If your pastor does not have some such attitude toward your immortal soul, he is not your friend; neither is he worthy of your support.

When I was in the navy, I was an aide to the chaplain on our base. He was a very accommodating and pleasant man, but he would swear, drink beer, and frequent places of worldly amusement. One day I asked him about his standing with God, and he told me that he was not a Christian; but he stated that he had known the Lord at one time in his life. Here was a man with the souls of some fifteen hundred men in his hands and he was unsaved. What a pity!

John Wesley returned to his home at Lincolnshire. The pastor was a drunkard and refused to let Wesley preach from his pulpit. Whitfield was ostracized from the church of England because of his stand against ungodliness, but his ministry was not without effect. At one time when he was to preach on London's city commons, a ruffian of the crowd gathered up stones and told his companions he was going to pelt that preacher well when he had finished with his sermon. After the heart-rending sermon, the vagabond confronted the great preacher with hot tears streaming down his unshaven face and showed him the rocks. Said he to Mr. Whitefield, "I came here today to break your head, and you have broken my heart."

So many other troopers of the cross have suffered



hunger, loneliness and excommunication. They have been stoned, imprisoned, lied about, and have faced death, hostility and maltreatment of every description. Yet they have stood bravely for the cause of Christ.

Blessed be God that all the men of the John the Baptist type have not perished from the earth—nor shall they ever. God has never been without his faithful witnesses. Though the Johns suffer exile, the Stephens are stoned to death and the Pauls go to the chopping block, still the message rings out. No sooner has one voice died than another takes up the gospel trumpet and the whole world becomes vibrant under truthful strains. You cannot stop the truth from being told. Nero had Paul beheaded; and, today, parents name their children Paul and their dogs Nero.

Rise up, Ye anointed of the Lord; rebuke sin; give lukewarmness and indifference a blast. Let erring men know that time is short, and death is certain; judgment is sure and eternity is long. Tell them that Jesus is soon coming back and earth's pleasures must end. Preach against the modern dance, the theater and obscene literature. Call sin by its right name. Tell men that the wages of sin is death, and it will find the sinner out. You may say, "People will not like that." Of course they will not. Isaiah came weeping and saying that no one would believe his report. Paul left Athens and shook the dust of the city off his feet as a testimony against it. He felt his efforts had failed; but Dionysius, the Areopagite, and Damaris, a woman, and certain others with them, believed. A Scotch country parson gave his life to one pastorate and won only one little boy to Jesus Christ, but that boy was David Livingston, the great African Missionary.

That is the joy of preaching. You labor tirelessly sowing seed for the Master in a very unpleasant field; and, years later, a flower comes to bloom.

Do not despair my earnest colleagues, you shall yet see the results of your labors. When all the messengers of the Cross, preach their last sermons, fold their tents and go home. Then, Oh sinner, all probation for the lost will have expired.

Friends and Brethren, can we say with him who was

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The following book review
appeared in the Summer Issue
of "Religion in Life."

A REVIEW OF CHURCH OF GOD HISTORY

As It Is Recorded in "Like a Mighty Army"

By Marcus Bach, M.A., Ph. D.
Professor at the School of Religion
University of Iowa

A BOOK OF HISTORY with a heart is something of an achievement, and historian Conn has achieved unusually well.

As everyone familiar with Church Street, U.S.A., knows, there are few typically American faiths. Christian Science is one. Mormonism is another. Jehovah's Witnesses is a third. There are others, but the most solid of them, as far as Protestant tradition is concerned, is the Pentecostal holiness movement. It was born in revivals and nourished in the enthusiasm of a neopapostolic zeal.

Among the mightiest of the Pentecostal groups are various Churches of God; among the most significant and influential of these, is the Church of God with headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee. This denomination is not to be confused with the Winebrennerian Churches of God or with the Churches of God, Holiness. It is not the same as the Church of God of Anderson, Indiana, or the Original Church of God, or the Tomlinson Church of God.

The Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee, was formed in Monroe County, Tennessee, in 1886 under the name "Christian Union." In 1902 there was a reorganization with the title "Holiness Church." In 1907 it adopted the name "Church of God." It began with the conviction of a number of people from various denominations in Tennessee, that the churches to which they belonged were not truly scriptural churches and that what they lacked most of all was the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Conn's assignment was to examine the record of this conviction from its beginning until the present. The result is a thoroughgoing description and a penetrating analysis of the events which brought this particular holiness group into being and established it as one of the most virile of American faiths.

The compelling title, a line from *Onward, Christian Soldiers*, carries an inference which song writer Baring-Gould did not have in mind. The curate wrote his hymn for children who liked to play soldier. Conn wrote his book for men and women, who, he feels, have withstood the theological revolutions and shifting battles of the creeds of the past century.

The Church of God is certainly not a military-minded denomination. In its early period it advocated against participation in war as far as its members were concerned. That position, happily or unhappily according

to one's point of view, has been revised. Today the Church of God leaves it up to the individual what he should do in the matter. It is quite prepared to defend the position of a member who believes that military service is incompatible with the teachings of Christ.

In a very real sense Conn's historical treatise is a defense of distinctives among this particular holiness group. He recognizes that many Church of God beliefs still continue to set apart this denomination as a "peculiar people."

Most of the established Protestant churches accept the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as a happy phase of fellowship with God. Most churches are quite ready to admit that something of a highly metaphysical nature happened on that "first Pentecost" and that Acts 2 reports some sort of mystical vitality in the early Church. The breaking point between the Church of God and traditional Protestantism is not in the historical but in the dispensational factor. No matter what happened in the "upper room," the churches of the Reformation are reluctant to believe that the charismata were intended for widespread operation in modern times. But the Church of God insists that the gift of miracles, strongly evident in primitive Christianity, remains as constant proof of divinity in the true Church of Christ and will remain so until the end of time. Conn points out that St. Paul bears out this truth and that one need only read 1 Corinthians 4:11 to come around to the belief that the Holy Spirit will never leave the modern Church without its substantial witness.

There are other Church of God distinctives which the historian explains in the light of history and Scripture. He explains the ever-controversial points of sanctification, the verbal inspiration of the Bible, justification, regeneration, and divine healing. He justifies the taboo on tobacco, liquor, wearing of jewelry, membership in secret societies, and other disciplines. How the Church of God interprets the plan of salvation and what it looks for in the premillennial second coming of Jesus are all part of this comprehensive and consecrated work.

This history of the Church of God moves forward in the lives of *intrepid, Holy Ghost-filled men*. It traces the aspiration of the Pentecostal followers backward into

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GOOD NEWS

FROM THE FAR WEST

By Linwood Jacobs

*District Pastor, San Joaquin,
California District*

THE GREAT CENTRAL VALLEY in California is known as the San Joaquin Valley. This valley, which is surrounded by lofty mountains and covers an area of thousands of square miles, is one of the most productive in fabulous California. At the southern edge of the great San Joaquin Valley is Kern county with varied climates at from 270 feet or 408 feet above sea level in the lush valleys to 3,000 feet above on the desert, with mountains rising majestically to over 8,300 feet. Kern county is as large as Massachusetts and larger than the combined states of Rhode Island, Delaware, and Connecticut. Eerie forests of Joshua trees in the fantastically beautiful Mohave Desert, cool mountain streams tumbling toward the luxurious valley from America's highest peak, vast acres of farm lands dotted with steel oil derricks—these are just a few of the scenic glimpses of this vast territory.

There are large cities teeming with people that are spiritually hungry; the field is whitened unto harvest and ripe for a man of God whose heart is aflame with a passion for souls. Bless the Lord! The spirit of the early pioneers is alive in hearts today, and I wish to sound a note of praise to God for the hard-working ministers of the San Joaquin district. All of the churches have grown, and within the past two years, we have organized three new churches.

The first organized church was at Wasco, California. Brother Charles Moon went into this fine town and rented a building and started services. God blessed; hungry hearts found the Lord, and a church was organized by the writer. Later, Brother Moon resigned, and Brother Hershal White was appointed as pastor. Under Brother White's pastorate, with help from the Home Missions Fund, we were able to buy a very fine piece of property, centrally located. The church is moving on for God and bids fair to become a great force for good in the community. The March district fellowship meeting was held in Wasco. The interest was so high that the auditorium was crowded, with many standing and many more unable to get inside.

Next, we invaded Maricopa, California, and established a beachhead for God. The enemy attacked again and again. At times we were almost routed, but God always sent reinforcements of spiritual power. God gave us Brother Ray Houck to be in charge of this mission. Brother Ray Houck gave five hundred dollars with which

we made the down payment on a very fine piece of property in the heart of town. This property is situated next door to a free parking lot operated by the city. It consists of a nice auditorium which seats approximately one hundred people. In the rear of the building is a very nice apartment which serves as living quarters for the pastor. Brother Larry Johnson is now the pastor of this growing work. On January 9, 1956, I had the privilege of organizing this fine group of people into a Church of God. Incidentally, this church has a very fine string band—as good as any Church of God band in California.

NESTLED IN THE SOUTHWEST of Kern county amid the bristling steel derricks of rich oil fields, is Taft, California. Unsuccessful attempts had been made to get a church established here. So it was with some trepidation that we made another endeavor. Brother N. D. Ford, an intrepid man of God, moved into this community; and, under very adverse circumstances, preached the Word. God blessed! The number of believers grew, and on January 19, 1956, I organized a church with seventeen members. This church was a winner in the California Sunday School Contest.

The church at Buttonwillow, under the leadership of the pastor, Brother Everett K. Johnson, has built a nice building that, when seated correctly, will seat about two hundred people.

The church at Ridgecrest, under the leadership of Marvin Ford, has purchased a nice lot, and is now in the process of completing the church building.

The other churches on the district are also making phenomenal progress: In 1955, Lamont had the greatest increase in membership of any church in the State. Brother Clyde Ropp is the pastor. Old River, under the leadership of Brother Melvin Grant, purchased a new church auditorium, and converted the old church into Sunday School rooms; Brother H. C. Glisson is now doing a great spiritual work among the people. Brother George Mangum, at Rosamond; Brother R. D. Walters, at Shafter; and Brother F. C. Coulston, at Tupman, report marked gains in membership. They also report that the spiritual tide is high with many souls finding the Saviour.

The throbbing heart of Kern County is Bakersfield. The metropolitan area has a population of approximately

150,000 people. It is a beautiful city of modern, comfortable homes, shaded with tall palms and eucalyptus trees. With snow-capped Sierra Nevadas scraping the sky to the east, the Coast Range towering to the west, and the Tehachapis rising to the south, Bakersfield is the southern portal to this luxuriant valley. The Mother Church of this area is our fine church here. Here are people who love and work with their pastor. The membership is treble what it was when I first came. Every service is another Pentecost. Our people pray and seek the Lord until God moves. We have a number of saints that have been in Pentecost for twenty-five and thirty years or longer. They have grown sweeter in the Lord every year. With such examples before them, our new converts are of the same caliber. In my twenty-six years of pastoral work, I have never had any more qualified workers to assist in the Church than I have here. Our building is filled to capacity in practically every service. Our tithes have increased until we now have a nice surplus. We pray that God will help us to make an impact on this city that will shake it to its very foundations for God.

Yes, it can be done in the Far West! When men have faith in God and preach the glorious gospel of the living Christ, God will always give the increase. This is just a brief resume of the work in one small portion of this great State. Our state overseer, Brother Ralph Williams, has endeared himself to the hearts of the ministry and laity, and the entire State is enjoying a healthy growth. Pentecostal power is falling! The flame is spreading, and the West Coast is ablaze for God.—Linwood Jacobs, District Pastor, San Joaquin, California, District.



A REVIEW OF CHURCH OF GOD HISTORY

(Continued from page 8)

a renewal of the upper-room experience and forward into an application of this experience in modern life.

In its immediate context the book is a study of adjusting institutionalized religion to life without uprooting, more than necessary, the ancient landmarks of faith. Any *outside reader* will be tempted to agree, under Conn's persuasive style, that the primal faith of the Church of God has been kept singularly stable and effective throughout the pressure of conflict and trial. Antagonism against the denomination made its early years difficult and precarious, but it also served to draw the Holy Ghost believers into closer fellowship. The greater the persecution, the greater the growth. Homes were burned and churches were dynamited. Violence against the movement continued until 1902, and even today there is resentment against the Church of God because of its literal interpretation of the Holy Ghost experience.

Conn believes that the Church of God of which he writes has a legal and spiritual right to be considered the oldest and original Church of God in America. Largest of the Pentecostal-holiness churches of God, it has a membership of approximately 130,000.

Like a Mighty Army will find a ready place in the homes of the Church of God members and will certainly serve as a valuable text and reference in the Church's academies and Bible colleges. It should also be of interest to other independent, Pentecostal, evangelical assemblies who make Acts 2 the *elan vital* of their faith. For non-

Pentecostals the volume is important for its clarification of Church of God (Cleveland, Tennessee) teachings and its account of how conviction and zeal can triumph over defection and distrust. Whether we like it or not, it may be that there is a certain parallelism between military strategy and the institutionalized expression of the gospel of Christ.

Review by Marcus Bach, Professor at the School of Religion, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, as printed in *Religion in Life*, Summer Issue, 1956.



THE INCOMPARABLE MINISTRY . . .

(Continued from page 7)

proud to be called a prisoner of the Lord Jesus Christ, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith, I am ready to be offered up and the time of my departure is at hand"? When our ministries are over I hope we will have this testimony. For when we stand amid that surging throng and take a retrospective view of the past, it will be too late to compensate for the wrong we have done or to correct the errors we have made in our dealings with lost men. May God help us to pattern more from this, honey-sipping, locust-chewing, water-splashing preacher from the wilderness and call a lost world to repentance.



Face your deficiencies and acknowledge them, but do not let them master you. Let them teach you patience, sweetness, insight. When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our own life or in the life of another.—Helen Keller



Our life is a keyboard. The Master's fingers will sweep over it, and a weary world will catch notes of melody as we pass along. The life that is in tune with God is keyed to the note of love.—The Reverend J. R. Miller



Kind hearts are the gardens, kind thoughts are the roots, kind words are the flowers, kind deeds are the fruits.—Author Unknown



We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths; in feelings, not in figures on a dial. We should count time by heartthrobs. He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.—Philip James Bailey



When your life seems full of shadows, As each day you wonder why. Remember that each day that passes, Brings you nearer that mansion in the sky. "In my Father's house are many mansions: If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2.—Mrs. Trishel Sisk.

LAYMAN OF THE YEAR

(Continued from page 5)

Watson's thoughtfulness is a quality of his character. His wife, certainly, has cooperated to the fullest extent in all the matters mentioned above.

Not only does Brother Watson have a faithful companion but also God has given him three children. The youngest son is a member of the church band and sings in the Teeners Choir. Brother and Sister Watson also have served as guardians for young girls who desired a Christian home.

The interest of Brother Watson is not confined to the local church of which he is a member. The other Churches of God in our city know that Lee Watson

will give help, if called upon. He stands ready to help the cause of God wherever there is a need. At camp meeting time he takes an active part in several positions. For several years he has served as chairman of the ushers. Some of the first money raised on the Georgia camp site was through the labor of Lee Watson.

Brother Watson is well known in the city of Atlanta. He is on the Governor's staff and also is a member of the Georgia Citizens' Committee. Wherever he goes, he well represents the Church of God. Many of the favors shown to our Church in Georgia have been because of the influence of this layman. Though some have tried to call him to preach, he feels that his calling is being a lay member and a businessman for God.

LAYMAN of the YEAR

SECOND PLACE WINNER—Haskel C. Williams, Baldwin Park, California

*By Ralph E. Williams
Overseer of California*

BORN ON JANUARY 14, 1901, in Cookeville, Tennessee, Haskel C. Williams, of Baldwin Park, California, was reared as a Baptist. He lost his father when he was three years old and became a full orphan at five years of age. When he was seventeen, he moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, and lived with a Church of God family. In 1926, he was converted under the ministry of Brother J. H. Ingram and joined the Church of God.

In 1929, he came to California with the Ingrams and served as state youth director of California. He helped to organize the Long Beach Church and was supply pastor there for two years. He attended Bible School in 1932-33 and married Margaret Jackson.

He traveled with Brother John Sharp in Oklahoma and Texas as assistant and song leader. Later, in 1933, he moved to Baldwin Park, California. He became the father of two little girls who now are devout Christians and belong to the local church. While serving the church as layman, he was state secretary for seven years under the leadership of Brothers Douglas, Ellis, Slay and J. H. Hughes. Also, he served as a member on several state boards.

Brother Williams has twenty-two years of unbroken service at the Baldwin Park Church. He has filled the following positions during these years:



Haskel C. Williams

Sunday School Superintendent for ten years, Assistant Superintendent for many years, Church Trustee, Licensed Deacon, Church Clerk, Sunday School Teacher and Music Director. At present, he serves on the Finance Board

and on the Board of Education. He is the teacher of the Youth Class and the Sunday School bus driver. While serving as Sunday School Superintendent he reorganized the various departments and instituted new ideas and programs which made a bigger and better Sunday School.

Brother Williams can always be relied upon in any emergency. He has "stood in the gap" in many ways during the past years, often saving the local congregation, thereby. As the male membership of the church is very small, he was often the one who had to handle each crisis. Today, Baldwin Park Church is a monument to his love for God, his clear thinking, and his unfailing devotion and loyalty to his local church. Not only is he faithful in tithing, but, also he has given the larger part of his income to the church—a practice that still holds true today.

Brother Williams has been an outstanding layman in the Church of God for thirty years and has been instrumental in leading many souls to Calvary—among them, his illustrious brother, H. D. Williams, General Secretary and Treasurer of the Church of God. His influence in California is state-wide, and the respect, of the ministry and laity, alike, which he enjoys, is ample evidence of their appreciation of work he has accomplished in the cause of Christ.



FISHERS OF MEN FELLOWSHIP

For some time, we have felt the need for a men's fellowship group in our local church. Therefore, a few months ago we formed a *Fishers of Men Fellowship* in the Hemphill Avenue Church of God. It was started on an open-to-all basis. Many men have joined and seem to enjoy it very much. The activities have ranged from breakfast together to a farewell dinner for Brother and Sister Stevens, who are going to Japan as missionaries.

The following officials were elected: Robert Blackwood, President; Lee Watson, Vice-President; Doctor Charles Thompson, Secretary and Treasurer. These men, with the appointed committee, over which Lacy Powell was chairman, and the pastor drew up the constitution and bylaws which follow. If your church can profit by them, we will be happy:

HEMPHILL AVENUE CHURCH OF GOD, ATLANTA, GA. FISHERS OF MEN FELLOWSHIP CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Article I

The name of this organization shall be the FISHERS OF MEN FELLOWSHIP.

Article II

The objectives of this organization shall be:

Section 1. The winning of men to the Lord Jesus Christ

Section 2. The provision of the proper climate for the fostering and maintenance of Christian fellowship

Section 3. The support of church-approved religious and community projects

Section 4. The giving of financial and/or spiritual assistance to worthy families and individuals

Section 5. The encouragement of active church participation by all members

Article III

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be of two classes, active and associate.

Section 2. Election to membership shall be by ballot of the members upon recommendation of the Executive Committee

Section 3. Active members shall be members of the Church of God and

shall pledge complete cooperation with organization officers and members in the execution of its program.

Section 4. Associate members shall be Christian men who are not members of the Church of God. They shall be entitled to all rights of the organization except those of holding office and voting.

Article IV

Section 1. The officers of the *Fishers of Men Fellowship* shall be three in number, President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. All officers, with the exception of the Board of Directors, shall be elected by ballot each year during the month of January. The first ballot shall be a nominating ballot. The three nominees receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot for each office shall make up the slate of candidates.

Section 3. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary for election to any office.

Section 4. Vacancies in office shall be filled by special election, which election shall be called by at least two members of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Special elections may be called, also when deemed necessary, by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. The President can not succeed himself.

Article V

Section 1. There shall be at least one meeting each month—sufficient notice shall be given by the President so that all members can plan to attend.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee, provided a notice of one week is given.

Section 3. The first meeting in the month of February shall be devoted to the installation of officers.

Article VI

Section 1. The transaction of business can be conducted only if a quorum is present.

Section 2. A quorum shall be constituted by the presence of one-half the active membership.

Article VII

Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by

a two-thirds vote, the proposed amendments having been submitted in writing and read at the last regular meeting of the organization.

Section 2. Bylaws may be adopted, amended, or repealed at any regular meeting by a majority vote.

Article VIII

Section 1. The policies of the *Fishers of Men Fellowship* shall be in harmony with those of the local church.

Section 2. No commercial or political enterprises shall be endorsed by this organization.

Section 3. This organization shall not seek to direct the administrative activities of the church by coercion or any other means.

Section 4. Affiliation of this fellowship with any organization, group, or individual is prohibited if the objectives of said groups are in conflict with this constitution or the teachings of the Church of God.

BYLAWS

Article I

Duties of officers:

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Executive Committee; shall be an ex officio member of all committees; shall appoint special committees; shall perform all duties other than these which usually pertain to his office.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall act as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in his absence; shall be in charge of the promotion of the organization in general.

Section 3. The Secretary-treasurer shall maintain a record in connection with all meetings; shall receive all monies of the organization which shall be passed on to the Finance Committee of the church for deposit in the church account, *Fishers of Men Fellowship* fund; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall expend organization funds as authorized by the Executive Committee; shall present a statement of accounts to the organization when called upon to do so.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall be made up of the local Church Council and pastor and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the officers of the organization.

Article II

All officers of the *Fishers of Men*

Fellowship shall be active members of the organization and in good standing with the Church.

Article III

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the organization.

Section 2. Its duties shall be to transact necessary business between meetings and to approve plans of work of the standing committee chairmen.

Section 3. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at the request of the President.

Article IV

The following standing committees shall be appointed by the Executive Committee:

Membership

Section 1. Chairmen of the standing committees shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and no committee work shall be undertaken without the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Special committees shall be appointed by the President as necessity demands.

Section 3. The chairman of the membership committee shall serve as assistant to the Secretary.

Article V

INSTALLATION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Formal installation of all new members shall be conducted as follows:

A. Scriptural selections: Matthew 4:17-20; Luke 9:23.

B. Reading of objectives.

C. Pledge:

I pledge to Christ and His cause my life and my services and to the "Fishers of Men Fellowship" my cooperation and assistance in carrying out its objectives. I hereby accept this pen as a symbol of the pledge now taken.



VALLEYPARK, Mo.—Recently, we had a real soul-stirring revival at the Church of God in Kirkwood, Missouri, with 24 saved, 3 sanctified, and 3 baptized with the Holy Ghost. The Lord also performed some marvelous healings in our services. Brother Clifford Thurman, the evangelist, did some real preaching that made our hearts burn with zeal to work for God. We shall never forget how the Lord blessed us by sending him our way. On the last Sunday evening of the revival, 15 were baptized in water. We are expecting to receive several new church members as a result of this meeting.—Walter Leon O'Neal, Pastor.

COLUMBUS (Frebis Avenue), Ohio—Recently, we closed a revival with Gertrude Patrick, of Cincinnati, Ohio, that the charter members said was the best in the history of the church. Twenty-four were saved, 20 sanctified, 15 filled with the Holy Ghost, 16 baptized in water, and 25 added to the Church. The revival ran only three and a half weeks because of the opening of the camp meeting, but the pastor, Henry B. Ellis, reports that the revival fire is still burning intensely. The altar was filled again the first Sunday after camp meeting.

There were a number of definite healings during the revival. One young man received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and was healed of stomach ulcers at the same time. He ate a hearty meal without ill effect on the following day for the first time in two years. Another man was saved and healed of an incurable lung disease at the same time.

The revival attracted Christians from the Church of Christ, Christian Union, Holiness Baptist, Christian

Baptist, Nazarene and Assembly of God who were thrilled by the manifestations of the Holy Ghost. Some sought the Baptism, and others gathered around the altar, praying for seekers in a united effort. There was a spirit of unity such as had not been seen or felt in a long time when churches came together and united to win souls. In the first part of August, the church began the completion of their building from a basement church to a nice brick one. In a recent drive over \$3,000 in cash and pledges was given towards the building program. The church has paid off two notes on the church, and the parsonage note is now less than \$6,000 which constitutes the total amount of the present indebtedness. God has given us 61 members since the last Assembly and a record attendance of 220 in Sunday School and 254 in Y.P.E. The tithes amount to a little more than \$1,000 a month. "And the end is not yet!"—Reporter.

BAINBRIDGE, Ga.—The Church of God at Bainbridge recently closed the most wonderful revival the church has ever had. There were a large number saved, several sanctified, 18 baptized in water, and 23 added to the Church. Brother H. L. Whittington, of Atlanta, Georgia, was the evangelist. He really did some wonderful preaching. The church was greatly blessed by Brother Whittington, who is a wonderful man of God. He will surely bless your church anytime you need a good evangelist.—Mrs. L. E. Gay, Clerk.

CHESNEE, S. C.—We enjoyed a two-weeks' revival with Margaret Jacobs as the evangelist. We were greatly blessed by the good messages. Seven were saved, 2 sanctified, 3

filled with the Holy Ghost, and 4 added to the church.—Ella Floyd, Clerk.

YAZOO CITY, Miss.—We enjoyed an outstanding revival with evangelist Cecil Guiles, accompanied by his talented wife, the former Joyce Phillips, daughter of Brother and Sister A. M. Phillips. Due to schedules beyond our control, Brother Guiles was only able to be with us one week. During this period he delivered nightly messages under the mighty anointing of the Holy Ghost, and they stirred the hearts of saint and sinner. Nine were saved, 5 sanctified, and 4 filled with the Holy Ghost. These consecrated young people will prove a blessing in any congregation to adults and youth alike. We count it a privilege to have been able to obtain them for this revival.—H. P. Ford, Jr., Pastor.

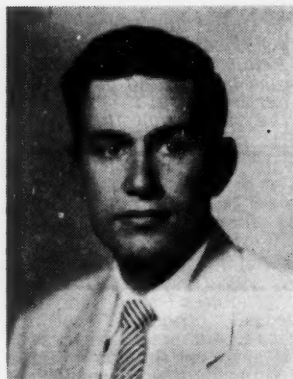
NIOTA, Tenn.—Recently we had one of the greatest revivals we have ever experienced, conducted by Brother and Sister Homer Miller of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Approximately, 50 were saved and 40 filled with the Holy Ghost. Several were sanctified and many delivered of oppressions. A church was set in order with eleven members. Several more are expected to join soon.—Wayne Guffey, Pastor.

MIDDLESBORO, Ky.—The Church of God at Middlesboro has just closed a wonderful youth revival. Brother Bob Mays from Lee College was the evangelist. Forty-seven were saved, 13 sanctified, 12 filled with the Holy Ghost, 21 baptized in water, and 23 added to the Church.—Clay Shelton, Pastor.

Complimentary Comments on

LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY

by a Church of God
layman



Dr. William Lawson, Chiropractor
Albany, Georgia

tion, making us more aware of HIS presence and approval as we move on from victory to victory!

Like A Mighty Army is a must in every Church of God home, especially in the homes of the younger generation of our church. I grew up in the church but my knowledge of early church history has been limited, thus I feel the necessity of every member's familiarizing himself with the history of the beginning of our church, its early struggles, progress, and present position among the pentecostal churches. This book portrays so vividly the trials and victories our early leaders experienced and makes one to realize more and more how God's hand has been on the Church of God.

The outpouring of the Holy Ghost and divine healings which are recorded in this book are inspirational and will bless each one who reads it.

I believe that Like A Mighty Army was written as a result of divine inspiration.

History is of immense value to any society. By giving an unprejudiced journal, it can preserve a heritage, criticize error and aid in charting the forward movement. The glossed propaganda sometimes captioned "history" may be romantic but is of little practical value.

The history of the Church of God — Like A Mighty Army — comes to the attention of the Church at a providential moment. It is not so far removed in time that its origins have become glossed over by legend and fancy, nor is it so far removed that antiquity becomes sacredness and therefore beyond criticism.

In this book is preserved the heritage and growth of the Church of God up to this point. This is the purpose of the book. It is remarkably effective toward its purpose. The author has taken all pains to avoid speculation and legend according to the principles of the field of historical science. From this straightforward record the other purposes of history are served — criticism of error and charting the forward movement.

No author can be entirely objective, and it is even questionable if this is desirable. Mr. Conn, in this book, is no exception; he breaks from the strict historical pattern to introduce very helpful analyses of the various factors in the life and development of our denomination.

The book is in a readable style that can easily appeal to people of all interests and levels of scholarship.

by a Church of God
scholar



R. H. Gause, Jr., B. D.
Professor of Religion
Lee College

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You may purchase your copy of *LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY* at the special price of only \$4.00, plus postage, during August from the Church of God Publishing House, Cleveland, Tennessee.

LEE COLLEGE EXPANDS!

TWO NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS TO BE INITIATED IN THE 1956-'57 TERM

The Junior College Division of Lee College is expanding to a Four-year Liberal Arts College. Lee will offer the *Bachelor of Arts Degree in English* and the *Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Studies*. Third-year courses will be added in the 1956-'57 term, and fourth-year courses will be added in the 1957-'58 term.

Write today for full details. Address:

The President, Lee College, Cleveland, Tennessee



ASHBURN, Ga.—Lately, we closed a two weeks' revival with Ruth Riggsby. Our church was really blessed. Brother and Sister Orr, our pastor and his wife, Sister Riggsby, and the church prayed for me, and God instantly healed me of high blood pressure and heart trouble. I had been taking five different kinds of medicine for some time and was taking a heart pill every 30 minutes. Thank God, I was instantly healed. I went to my doctor, and he said I was in the best condition that I had been in for years. When Brother and Sister Orr came to pastor our church in March, I did not understand the plan of salvation. Since that time, I have accepted it and am now a member of the Church of God. Twenty have been saved, 3 sanctified, 13 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 7 added to the Church since March. Pray that God will continue to bless at Ashburn.—Mrs. M. L. Jolly, attested by M. E. Orr, Pastor.

MONTICELLO, Fla.—I praise God for the way in which He touched my body at the Florida Camp Meeting in Wimauma. I had high blood and heart trouble. I went through the first prayer line and God wonderfully touched my body; I have felt like a new person since coming home. I have been through different prayer lines at big healing campaigns, but I never felt what I felt in the prayer line at Wimauma. It was real, praise His wonderful name! I was saved in 1920 and have not taken any medicine since that time. He is able to keep that which is committed unto Him. He would heal more people if they would let Him. I can never thank God enough for His healing power and for that wonderful camp meeting. —Bonna Dubose.

GRAYSON, La.—I praise God for His great healing power. My youngest daughter became sick one Sunday night at church. The pastor and members prayed for her, and we came home. I prayed and she got relief enough to go to sleep, but at three o'clock she became sick again. She was groaning with every breath she took, so I got the *Evangel* and laid it on her and began crying to God. I promised God that if He would heal her I would write to the *Evangel*. She was burning with fever, but in five minutes she said she was easy. Five minutes later another pain struck her, so I prayed for her again. That time she got complete relief. I believe she had an attack of appendicitis, but God healed her. He has also healed my children of strep throat.—Mrs. Ernie O. Harrelson.

APOPKA, Fla.—There is nothing impossible with God. I was very sick,

and so many things were wrong with me that sometimes I thought there was no use of trying anymore. I went to a doctor which did no good. I told him "to patch me up" so that I could go to camp meeting. Meanwhile, I wrote to my son in Newry, South Carolina, to have prayer for me. When I got to camp meeting they had a healing service, and I went through the line. I felt that I was healed, but the Devil said that when I got home I would be sick again. To make sure that I was healed, I went through the line again the next time they had a healing service. Now I know that I am healed, and my neighbors also know it. They said that it would be wonderful if they could feel as I do after their vacation. I told them to take the Lord with them and get healed, and then they would know how I feel. I had been sick for a time before I was healed. I was weak and coughed with bronchial pneumonia; also, I had gall bladder trouble. I have had the Holy Ghost about 37 years and have enjoyed every day of my experience. I love the Lord with all my heart.—Mrs. L. M. Waters.

HAYLOW, Ga.—I love and appreciate the Lord more than words can express, for the healing of my husband's throat when it looked as if he had gone just as far as he could go. He was in the Huey Hospital in Homer-ville, Georgia, in December, 1955. One morning at about five o'clock when it looked as if he could not stand it any longer, I asked him if I could call Brother J. B. Roberson, the pastor of the Homerville Church of God, to come and pray for him. He told me that I could. Brother Roberson came to the hospital right away; and, when he prayed for my husband, God healed him immediately. My husband is a sinner, but once knew God and realized that God would and could heal him. I had grown cold, but I am happy to say that on June 19, 1956, God gave me a refilling in the Holy Ghost. I am yet praising Him. Please pray that I will be just what God would have me be and that my husband will get saved. I know God can and will, if we obey Him.—Mrs. Inez Henderson.

Last March while en route from Delaware to Georgia, my wife became ill and my car would hardly run. We stopped and asked a lady if we might use her telephone. She was a real mother to us. Best of all, God was on the scene. She prayed for my wife and she was healed. Then she prayed for our baby who was born blind. We thank God that He gave her eyesight. We will never be able to thank God enough. The Doctor says that our baby's eyesight is normal. In traveling, we lost the lady's name and address. She said she belonged to the Church of God in Greensboro, North Carolina. If possible, I would like for her to know that we are praying for her and thanking God for the eyesight He gave our baby. My wife and baby have returned to the Philippines. I shall soon join them.—J. P. Ljung.



MASON

Mrs. O. E. Mason went to be with Jesus on May 1, 1956, at the age of 41 years. She had been a faithful member of the Church of God in Decatur, Alabama, for six years. Sister Mason was loved by everyone who knew her, and she will be greatly missed by the church and community in general. She is survived by her husband, O. E. Mason; six daughters, Mrs. H. D. Borden, Mrs. Aledean Morgan, Mrs. Leroy Martin, Misses Mary Edith, Linda Faye and Lonnie Lou Mason; and three sons, James Malcom, and Douglas Mason. Her funeral was conducted by her pastor, Brother F. T. Dismukes.—Rev. F. T. Dismukes, Pastor.

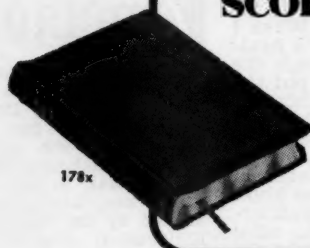
MOYER

Mrs. Lulu Grady Moyer, 65, of Parshall, North Dakota, received her call from the Lord on July 2, 1956, in a Minot hospital where she had been a patient for three weeks. Sister Moyer had been a faithful Christian for 31 years and attended church regularly even after a stroke, five years ago, which left her totally deaf. She was a great inspiration to the church as well as to her family and friends. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her, but our loss is heaven's gain. She is survived by her husband, Brother Foster Moyer; five daughters, Mrs. Alice Torgerson, of Parshall; Mrs. Irene Markwardt, of Velva; Mrs. Helen Keane, of Pasadena, California; Mrs. Betty Keppler and Mrs. Florence Boese, both of Minneapolis, Minnesota; one son, Kenneth of Jamestown, North Dakota; and 17 grandchildren. The funeral was conducted on July 5 by the pastor, Brother J. W. Morgan. Burial was in Parshall Cemetery.—Mrs. Imogene Morgan, Clerk.

REMBERT

Brother W. G. Rembert, retired minister of the Church of God, 92 years of age, passed away June 17, at the Clark County, Kentucky, Hospital. For a number of years, Brother Rembert had made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Reffitt, on Winn Avenue, in Winchester, Kentucky. He was born in Canada and came to the United States when he was seven years of age. When he was about fourteen years old he began his ministry and continued very actively until a few years ago. He has served the Church of God as state overseer, pastor, and evangelist; he served on the Council of Seventy from 1921 to 1928. He was a member of the Somerset Church of God. The funeral was conducted at the Church of God, Winchester, Kentucky, with Brother A. M. Phillips, State Overseer, in charge, assisted by Brother George W. Wilson, Pastor.

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